

interpretations. There are inaccuracies and some frank errors. Nevertheless, the book should be a very useful one as a quick reference source for students of medical chemistry.

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**THE CLINICAL APPRENTICE.** A Guide for Students of Medicine by John M. Naish, M.D. (Cantab.), Lately Tutor in Medicine, Bristol University and John Apley, M.D. (Lond.), Honorary Pediatrician, Royal United Hospital, Bath. The William and Wilkins Co., Baltimore, Maryland, 1948. \$4.50.

This is a small book written for English students beginning their clinical training in medicine. The authors have designed it to help the student who is working in physical diagnosis. At this stage of his career he has difficulty in correlating the tremendous amount of information which he has accumulated in his preclinical sciences, the detailed examination which he is told to follow and the apparently brief examination with which the experienced practitioner contents himself. The book makes no attempt to give a comprehensive account of the methods of examination and the difficulties associated with the mastery of physical diagnosis, but emphasizes certain essentials in order to make the techniques of physical examination stand out as vivid and understandable.

For a small book it has a great deal of useful information. While it is essentially concerned with physical diagnosis, it also represents a summary of the medical philosophy of the authors. It is practical and commonsensical in its approach. It has a number of well drawn and pointed diagrams. It may be helpful to American students as a reference to certain aspects of physical diagnosis but can not be considered in the light of replacing any of the more comprehensive books which are available at present.

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**STERILITY AND IMPAIRED FERTILITY,** Pathogenesis, Investigation and Treatment. By Cedric Lane-Roberts, C.V.O., M.S., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.; Albert Sharman, M.D., Ph.D., M.R.C.O.G.; Kenneth Walker, M.A., M.D., B.C. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S., F.I.C.S.; B. P. Wiesner, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.S.E.; and Mary Barton, M.B., B.S. Second Edition. Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., Medical Book Department of Harper & Brothers, New York, N. Y., 1948. \$6.50.

Cedric Lane-Roberts, Albert Sharman, gynecologists, and Kenneth Walker, urologist, collaborated with B. P. Wiesner, biologist, as authors of the first edition. Mary Barton, first assistant to the Fertility Clinic, Royal Free Hospital, London, has been added to the list of authors of the second edition. This volume is a general review of the problem of infertility in the human and deals with both the male and female factors. It is apparently the first work of this kind published in England and it is dignified by a masterly introduction from the pen of Lord Horder.

From our viewpoint there should have been a better revision for the second edition. There are many omissions of important recent advances in our knowledge but the subject matter covered is extensive and will prove of great value to the student and general practitioner who desire a groundwork for this study. To the great amount of compiled material the Lane-Roberts group also have added much from their own clinical and laboratory experience.

There is no other single volume that will give the reader the amount of information, much in detail, that is contained in this handy book. It is of worth as it presents a review, incomplete as it is, of valuable research and laboratory findings, which otherwise would entail a great amount of time and laborious search to obtain.

The first three chapters constitute an excellent introduction and general survey of the problem. Chapters III through VI deal with fertility and impaired fertility of the male. The chapters on The Constitution of Semen and

Assay of Fertility will give the reader an excellent over-all view as well as considerable detail in these essentials. However, the authors' statement in the summary that "the assay must be based primarily upon the morphological characteristics of the spermatozoa and their capacity to invade ovulatory cervical mucus" will not be accepted by the majority of investigators, as the number of spermatozoa is undoubtedly a determining factor.

Many of the opinions expressed by the authors are not in accord with those of most investigators in the field. For instance, impaired fertility is often indicated in the semen only by a reduction in the number of spermatozoa, while their morphology remains normal. Yet the statement is made by the authors that in checking the results of treatment by repeated semen tests it is seldom necessary to do more than study the morphology of the spermatozoa.

Chapters VII and VIII are concerned with infertility in the female. The authors first deal with theoretical considerations, stages in investigation, disturbances of endocrine mechanism, and then with therapeutic procedures, including special measures, surgical methods and an adequate consideration of artificial insemination. However, the reviewer feels that some parts of the book were written by a good clinician who was somewhat led astray by the glittering findings of the laboratory. Some of the discussions relating to the endocrine factors, for instance, are tinctured with too many speculations based on animal experimentation and not proven as applicable to clinical work. This is especially seen in the sections which deal with the usage of tests for gonadotropic and estrogenic hormones in the blood and urine, procedures which in this country have remained within the sanctuary of research groups and have been shown generally impractical for the practicing physician. The same applies to some questionable recommendations regarding endocrine therapy.

This book can be accepted as a good general review and most of the recommendations for investigation and therapy are in keeping with the practices advocated by American authorities.

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**PATHOLOGY.** Edited by W. A. D. Anderson, M.A., M.D., F.A.C.P., Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology, Marquette University School of Medicine, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, Mo. \$15.00.

This book is different from other English language textbooks of pathology, in that it represents the work of 32 collaborators. This has resulted in an authoritative presentation of most of the important fields of pathology. The discussions on the whole are somewhat more detailed than those in other textbooks in English, and this has been accomplished without introducing detail to a confusing degree, yet the reader receives in most chapters a satisfactory idea of our incomplete understanding of the pathogenesis of many diseases.

Although a few recent contributions to pathology have not been included, this first edition is up-to-date, and several modern studies, such as the effects of radiation, are discussed in detail. The skin, the bones and the nervous system are given more comprehensive treatment than in most other textbooks.

The book is well illustrated, with ten plates in color. Most of the many photomicrographs are excellent. The lines of type are more closely placed than in most comparable textbooks, but the text is readable, and without this space-saving device, it would probably have been impossible to include all of the material in the one volume, which, as it is, has 1,426 pages.

This textbook should be useful for students, and it should be a valuable reference book for physicians.